

In habits the *Lepidosiren* was sluggish, wriggling about amongst the dense vegetation. It was in most cases nearly blind, merely distinguishing light and shade, and was very sensitive to vibrations in the water. It fed on large ampullarias and on masses of *confervæ* &c.

On the approach of the dry season it ceased to eat entirely: the muscles especially of its tail underwent fatty degeneration. It became sluggish in its habits, remaining in its burrow, and as the waters completely dried up it remained in the mud, breathing air by means of an air-hole.

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The following papers were read:—

1. On a small Collection of Lepidoptera made by Mr. F. Gillett in Somali-land. By A. G. BUTLER, Ph.D., F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c.

[Received October 19, 1897.]

Examples of the following species were collected by Mr. F. Gillett in Somali-land during the present year (1897), and, although unhappily in poor condition, owing to the fact that they were attacked by mites, are of interest as adding to our knowledge of the Lepidopterous fauna of that country. No new species are represented in the collection.

#### RHOPALOCERA.

1. *LIMNAS CHRYSIPPUS*, L.  
Vars. *L. klugii* and *L. dorippus*.  
Beichen, 22nd January, 1897.
2. *MELANITIS ISMENE*, Cr.  
Berbera, 13th January.
3. *CHARAXES ACHLEMENES*, Felder.  
Dimoley, 23rd January.
4. *CHARAXES KIRKII*, Butler  
♂, Dimoley, 23rd January.
5. *JUNONIA SESAMUS*, Trimen.  
Sheik, 26th January.
6. *JUNONIA BOOPIS*, Trimen.  
Sheik, 26th January.
7. *JUNONIA TAVETA*, Roghf.  
Dimoley, 23rd January.

8. *HYPOLIMNAS MISIPPUS*, L.  
♂ ♂, ♀ ♀, Dhobar, 21st, and Beichen, 23rd January.
9. *BYBLIA ACHELOIA*, Wlgr.  
Locality not on specimen.
10. *BYBLIA ILITHYIA*, Drury.  
Dimoley, 23rd January.
11. *ACRÆA BRÆSIA*, Godman.  
Sheik, 26th January.
12. *PARDOPSIS PUNCTATISSIMA*, Boisd.  
No exact locality recorded on specimen.
13. *AZANUS JESOUS*, Guérin.  
No exact locality noted.
14. *TARUCUS THEOPHRASTUS*, Fabr.  
Sooksooder, 3rd January.
15. *CASTALIUS LACTINATUS*, Butler.  
No special locality recorded of this rare little species.
16. *HYREUS* ? sp.  
Too much worn for identification.
17. *ZERITIS PERION*, Cramer.  
No exact locality noted.
18. *MYRINA FICEDULA*, Trimen.  
No exact locality noted.
19. *SPINDASIS BELLATRIX*, Butler.  
Beichen, 22nd January.  
The type was described from Suakin.
20. *MYLOTHRIS AGATHINA*, Cramer.  
♀, Sooksooder, February 6th.
21. *TERACOLUS CALAIS*, Cramer.  
Beichen, 22nd January.
22. *TERACOLUS PHISADIA*, Godt.  
No exact locality noted : the species is new to Somali-land.
23. *TERACOLUS PHILLIPSII*, Butler.  
Beichen, 22nd January.
24. *CATOPSILIA FLORELLA*, Fabr.  
Dimoley, 23rd January.

25. *BELÉNOIS MESENTINA*, var. *LORDACA*, Walker.  
Dhobar, 21st, Beichen, 22nd January ; Berbera, January.
26. *SAPÆA PARADISEA*, var., Butler.  
Dimoley, 23rd January.
27. *RHOPALOCAMPTA ANCHISES*, Gerst.  
Dhobar, 21st January.  
Apparently a common species.

#### HETEROCERA.

All of these excepting one are referable to the *Noctur.*

28. *AGROTIS* sp. (too bad for recognition).  
Dhobar, 21st January.
29. *ACHÆA MELICERTE*, Drury.  
Dhobar, 21st January.
30. *SPHINGOMORPHA MONTEIRONIS*, Butler.  
No special locality recorded.
31. *ORTHODES TIRHACA*, Cramer.  
Goolis Mountains, Galeed, 13th February.
32. *AVATHA LEUCOPTERA*, Hampson.  
Beichen, 22nd January.
33. *CASAMA VILIS*, Walker.  
Beichen, 22nd January  
This is a *Liparid.*

2. On the Mammals obtained by Mr. A. Whyte in Nyasaland, and presented to the British Museum by Sir H. H. Johnston, K.C.B.; being a fifth Contribution to the Mammal-fauna of Nyasaland. By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

[Received October 25, 1897.]

(Plate LIV.)

In June and July 1896 Mr. Alexander Whyte, the well-known collector, made an expedition into Northern Nyasaland for the purpose of investigating the fauna of that part of the territories administered by Sir Harry Johnston. The expedition proved remarkably successful, for besides the large number of specimens of other groups obtained, Mr. Whyte brought back the fine collection of mammals of which the present paper gives an account.